LEBANON

COUNTRY PROFILE

**IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 21:
REVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE SINCE THE
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, 1992**

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*United Nations Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development
Division for Sustainable Development
The Information contained in this Country Profile is also available on the World Wide Web, as follows:
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LEBANON

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All statistics are rendered as provided by the respective Governments.

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ACRONYMS

APELL	Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level
CFC	chlorofluorocarbon
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel
EEZ	exclusive economic zone
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ELCI	Environmental Liaison Centre International
EMINWA	environmentally sound management of inland water
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GAW	Global Atmosphere Watch (WMO)
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEMS	Global Environmental Monitoring System (UNEP)
GEMS/WATER	Global Water Quality Monitoring Programme
GESAMP	Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Pollution
GIPME	Global Investigation of Pollution in Marine Environment (UNESCO)
GIS	Geographical Information System
GLOBE	Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment
GOS	Global Observing System (WMO/WWW)
GRID	Global Resource Information Database
GSP	generalized system of preferences
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAP-WASAD	International Action Programme on Water and Sustainable Agricultural Development
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
IBSRAM	International Board of Soil Resources and Management
ICCA	International Council of Chemical Associations
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICPIC	International Cleaner Production Information Clearing House
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
ICSU	International Council of Scientific Unions
IEEA	Integrated environmental and economic accounting
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGADD	Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development
IGBP	International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (ICSU)
IGBP/START	International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme/Global Change System for Analysis, Research and Training
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INFOTERRA	International Environment Information system (UNEP)
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPCS	International Programme on Chemical Safety
IPM	integrated pest management
IRPTC	International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals
ITC	International Tin Council
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization

IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
MARPOL	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PGRFA	plant genetic resources for agriculture
PIC	prior informed consent procedure
SADCC	South African Development Co-ordination Conference
SARD	sustainable agriculture and rural development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRO	Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNU	United Nations University
WCP	World Climate Programme (WMO/UNEP/ICSU/UNESCO)
WFC	World Food Council
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature (also called World Wildlife Fund)
WWW	World Weather Watch (WMO)

OVERVIEW

(You may wish to use pages v and vi to briefly present your national position five years after UNCED)

The Ministry of Environment was created by LAW 216 (April 1993) and it is empowered to study, propose and implement national environmental policies. Howerver, overlap in institutional responsibilities for environmental mangement contributes to poor implementation. Also, poor law enforcement is a major weakness of the environmental system control. As a result, MoE lacks the means to enforce the legal requirements falling under its jurisdiction and has to rely on the Ministry of Interior's ability and willingness to enforce such requirements.

Despite all these obstacles, MoE has set priorities on the National level for the year 1997-1998, and that can be summarized as follow:

1. Restructuring the organization of MoE in an attempt to clearly define the role and objectives of the Ministry.
2. Solid Waste Management: MoE is in the process of preparing a strategic plan for rational and effective management solid waste.
3. Toxic waste: A decree 22/1 (January 1997) prohibited the import of all plastic waste according to the list provided by EU. Also, toxic waste (Belgian, Canadian and German) are on their way to be returned back to their country of origin.
4. Industries: A study about Industrial Waste management is in its last stages. A National Plan will be declared and implemented.
5. Quarries: Closed quarries will be technically and aesthetically rehabilitated in collaboration with all concerned parties where construction debris will be treated and filled-in.
6. Environmental education & awareness: A national awareness plan has been established but it has not been implemented yet. Re-enforcement of the Protocol between MoE and the Ministry of Education will be updated soon.
7. Protected areas: A GEF project was launched in 15/11/1996 at the MoE for the protection and management of three Protected areas. Another three coastal and marine areas are on their way to being included within the same project.
8. Information System: MoE is working on creating its own information network, using among other projects, the Sustainable Development Networking Programme (SDNP), a UN project currently implemented at MoE.
9. Revision of the National Environmental Code.
10. Working in collaboration with the Ministry of Electrical and Hydraulic Resources to prepare studies on effective water waste treatment.

The ultimate long-term objectives of MoE are as follows:

1. Prepare the appropriate legislative framework to enforce environmental practices.
2. Initiate working plans and programs setting the accurate indicators and standards in various environmentally affected sectors (private and public).
3. Launching public awareness campaigns through core academic curricula and through the different audio-visual media.
4. Impose application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) on vital developmental projects, and substitute problematic plans by environmentally friendly ones.
5. Empower local NGOs role in the civil society.

FACT SHEET

NAME OF COUNTRY: LEBANON

1. Name of Key National Sustainable Development Coordination Mechanism(s)/Council(s).

Ministry of Environment (MoE)

Contact point (Name, Title, Office): Ms. Sawsan Mehdi

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2. Membership/Composition/Chairperson: Gov. Agencies headed by Minister of Environment

2a. List of ministries and agencies involved:

All line ministry and other national institutions are involved in line with the MoE law.

2b. Names of para-statal bodies and institutions involved, as well as participating of academic and private sector bodies:

All national para-statal bodies and institutions are involved in line with MoE.

2c. Names of non-governmental organizations involved:

Lebanese Environment Forum (26 NGO's) is involved in line with MoE.

3. Mandate role of above mechanism/council:

There is no such mechanism/council in Lebanon

4. If available, attach a diagram (organization chart) showing national coordination structure and linkages between ministries:

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 2: **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO ACCELERATE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND RELATED DOMESTIC POLICIES (with special emphasis on TRADE)**

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

- Bilateral cooperation with Syria based on the Treaty of Brotherhood. Cooperation and coordination signed in 1991 was activated in the field of environment in 1995.

- Lebanon participated in the Euro-Mediterranean conference in Barcelona in 1995. EU's support in the field of SD is expected to increase.

- The Friends of Lebanon meeting organized by the US Government in December 1996 raised various SD issues. Multilateral and bilateral cooperation in this field was expressed during the meeting.

- A workshop on Trade opportunities for Lebanon, in light of cooperation with the EU, was organized by UNCTAD in early June 1995. Discussions of Lebanon's eventual participation in GATT (of which Lebanon was a founding member in 1949, but from which it later withdrew) are underway.

- Sector Implementation Units have been established by EU in the various line Ministries and a unit for planning and programming by METAP in MoE assist in international cooperation.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

- Council for Development and Reconstruction in cooperation with concerned line ministries.

- Prime Minister's Office in cooperation with CDR.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

-The Sector implementation units and unit for planning and programming assist national cooperation efforts.

3. Major Groups:

- CDR, various concerned line ministries
- The Lebanese Investment Development Authority (IDA)
- The Beirut Stock Exchange
- Beirut Chamber of Commerce
- The Lebanese Industrialist Association

4. Finance:

Partly the Lebanese Government financed programmes.
Various grants from Arab Donors, Canada, France, IDF, Japan, UNDP, USAID and EU were obtained. Loans from World Bank were also obtained.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

Extensive regional/international cooperation is being developed.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS					
GDP per capita (PPP $) in 1993	2,500				
GNP per capita annual growth rate (%) in 1980-93	0.6				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 3: COMBATING POVERTY

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

- Focus of national strategy

There is no Lebanese national policy to combat poverty; economic and social policies are directed towards reducing the effects of poverty rather than tackle the causes. These policies address some of the following issues:

1. Increase in wages which increases inflation and does not in any case cover past increases in the cost of living;
2. Stabilizing national currency and limiting hypo-inflation;
3. Use of indirect taxation on selected goods while reducing the income tax to a flat 10% rate.

- Highlight activities aimed at the poor and linkages to the environment

The main activities mentioned above have had little effect in improving the social conditions of the poor. The environmental impact of these policies has been to encourage unsustainable real estate construction which has put additional strains on access to clean water, healthy air, sanitary networks etc.

The effort to return displaced people during the war to their homes and lands will have an impact on the poverty situation, as increased sources of income are added per family.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

Ministry of Social Affairs
High Relief Committee
CDR

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Efforts to increase productivity of the poor are limited. A safety net operated mainly by NGOs reduces poverty effects.

3. Major Groups:

High Relief Council
International NGOs (Caritas)
National NGOs

4. Finance:

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

High Relief Council receives ad-hoc international support.
International NGOs (Caritas, World Vision, Save the Children)

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1985	1990	1992	1994	
Unemployment (%)				10%	
Population living in absolute poverty				28%	
Public spending on social sector %					

Other data

The poverty line for a family of four with 1.5 income was, in 1993, $618 income/month and, in 1994, $800 income/month.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 4: CHANGING CONSUMPTION PATTERNS

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

• National policy objectives/focus

There is no set policy for changing consumption patterns in Lebanon. Although the trends in the reconstruction phase have negatively affected natural resources, due to a high demand for land and water, improvement at the various sector levels is expected in the future, once the infrastructure is installed and a more updated fiscal programme is in place. The potential to introduce economic instruments for appropriate management of natural resources is urgently required.

• National targets

- The electricity sector aims to establish gas turbines and some hydro-electric turbines. Electricity rates are currently increasing.

- Water charges are very low. Water management policy is required to prevent unorganized withdraw of ground water.

- Public transport is expected to greatly improve.

- Quarrying activities are being organized through the National Master Plan for Quarries.

- Economic instruments (including incentives) for industries should be introduced.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

Ministry of Environment
Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Trade & Economy
Private Sector Umbrella Organizations

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Need to be further introduced, strengthened and organized.

3. Major Groups:

NGOs, CBOs, local authorities, academia, and Private Sector Organizations.

4. Finance:

Should be better focused on such issues.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1985	1990	1992	1993
GDP per capita (current US$)				2,500
Real GDP growth (%)				
Annual energy consumption per capita (Kg. of oil equivalent per capita)				1,000
Motor vehicles in use per 1000 inhabitants				300
Other data Share of consumption of Renewable energy resources (%) Irrigation water charge (US$/m3)			0.02	15

Government policies affecting consumption and production.

1. Goals and Agents (Stakeholders)

Indicate with a (X) those agents which your Governments policies are meant most to influence.

Agents / Goals	Producers	Local authorities	Central Government	Households	Civil society
Material efficiency					
Energy efficiency:					
Transport	X		X		X
Housing	X		X	X	X
Other					
Waste:					
Reduce			X		
Reuse			X		
Recycle			X		

Comments:

2. Means & Measures and Agents (Stakeholders)

Indicate with an (R) those agents who assume primary responsibility for any of the policy measures indicated; indicate with an (I) the agents for which the impact is expected to be especially significant.

Means & Measures / Agents	Producers	Local authorities	Central Government	House-holds	Civil Society
Improving understanding and analysis					
Information and education (e.g., radio/TV/press)	R				R/I
Research	R				
Evaluating environmental claims	R		R/I		
Form partnerships					R/I
Applying tools for modifying behaviour					
Community based strategies					
Social incentives/disincentives (e.g., ecolabelling)	R				R/I
Regulatory instruments					
Economic incentives/disincentives					
Voluntary agreements of producer responsibility for aspects of product life cycle					R/I
Provision of enabling facilities and infrastructure (e.g., transportation alternatives, recycling)			R/I		
Procurement policy					
Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing performance					
Action campaign					R/I
Other (specify)					

Comments:

While neither the Government nor CBO strategies exist, some campaigns/areas of concern have been already addressed. Cooperation and partnership in initiating such activities and ensuring their impact, however, still does not exist. The case where such activities are either government driven or CBO driven with little interaction between the two groups is still the trend.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 5: DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS AND SUSTAINABILITY

NATIONAL PRIORITY: Low Priority

STATUS REPORT:

Current estimates of population in Lebanon are built on estimates developed from earlier studies. There has been no census since 1932, the results of which were updated during world war II by the French. Since then, national demographic data have taken the form of estimates and projections.

Between 1994-1996 a large survey of a 70,000 person base was conducted by the Ministry of Social Affairs in cooperation with UNFPA. This survey looked at population distribution characteristics based on indicators, such as economic, educational, marriage, and others. This survey was the first effort towards developing population trends.

No policy exists though on issues relating to population growth and fertility levels, which are not considered on the national agenda. Particular NGOs do have limited programmes in this area.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

The Ministry of Social Affairs, the Central census department at the presidency of the council of Ministers, the Ministries of Interior, Displaced persons, Public Health, Education, and housing all participated in data collection.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

One major survey, in 1932, was conducted by the Government. Acceptable level of Human and technology resources available in Government.

3. Major Groups:

Ministry of Social Affairs
NGOs
CBOs

4. Finance:

Limited funding from the National budget with donor funding from UNFPA.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1990	1993	1996	
Population (Thousands) mid-year estimates			3200	
Annual rate of increase (1990-1993)		2%	2%	
Surface area (Km^2)	10450	10450	10450	
Population density (people/Km^2)		365		
Other data Population densities vary from 1 610 person/km2 in the coast, to 440 person/km2 in Mount Lebanon to 260 person/km2 in South to 120 person/km2 in Bekaa				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 6: PROTECTING AND PROMOTING HUMAN HEALTH

NATIONAL PRIORITY: Ad-hoc Planning

STATUS REPORT:

The national health care system aims to provide health services to the entire population. This objective, however, has not been achieved even though health costs have increased drastically, doubling between 1989 and 1992. Preventive health care programmes are provided for very basic diseases, such as measles, polio, etc. Programmes related to health problems caused by environmental pollution are still in their early stages. Main emphasis is given to the effects of toxic and hazardous wastes imported from Europe. Health problems derived from such sources as motor vehicles, power plants, industrial point sources, and ground water contamination are still tackled through ad-hoc planning. A legitimate assessment of the current situation cannot be presented due to lack of field monitoring of sources and the absence of health registries documenting the true scope of related causes and effects.

Private sector hospitals account for 95% of health care in Lebanon with an oversupply of services, while public health care is under staffed and under equipped. Most top quality specialized care is concentrated in and around Beirut.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

Ministry of Health

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

While private hospitals have top quality equipment and staff, public health care centers are under staffed and poorly equiped.

3. Major Groups:

Private Hospitals (95% of services)
Government Hospitals
760 Local clinics, 80% of which are run by NGOs and CBOs

4. Finance:

Ministry of Health from the National budget (4-6% of total National budget on average).
$100 million has been requested from Friends of Lebanon Conference for Primary Health care expansion, hospital rehabilitation, and new equipments.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

WB project at MoH to introduce primary health care in the National Health system to the entire population ($33 million). Other Multilateral and bilateral support is being provided.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1990	1993	1995
Life expectancy at birth Male Female	N/A	68.3 68.8 70.7	
Infant mortality (per 1000 live births)		34	
Maternal mortality rate (per 100000 live births)		300	
Access to safe drinking water (% of population)	92		99.8
Access to sanitation services (% of population)	75		99
Other data			

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 7: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL PRIORITY: Not a National Priority

STATUS REPORT:

Before the war of 1975, the benefits of economic development were concentrated in the capital area around Beirut, the Zahle area with its rich agriculture and agro-processing and, to a lesser extend, the coastal zone of Tripoli and Saida. Thus, Beirut accounted for 50% of the population and over 65% of economic activity. The war led to the decentralization and multi-polarization of the economy and human settlements.

Since the end of the war, ad-hoc real estate development in and around Beirut and in Mount Lebanon has become rampant and, therefore, a major source of environmental degradation. Zoning laws, instituted in the 1950s and 1960s, are by passed or ignored through corruption in the system, and green spaces mandated in zoning are rarely preserved.

The end of the war redirected economic activity towards the capital and its neighboring coast, once Beirut became again the place most likely to provide jobs and a good education. This back and forth development has put great strains on infrastructure (water supply and waste water disposal) in addition to heavy strains on urban air quality in the capital.

The resettlement of those displaced during the war is of national importance, even though funding for reconstruction of destroyed infrastructure in former war zones is limited.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure: The Council of Ministers, the General Directorate of Urban Planning, of the Ministry of Public Works, and Individual Municipalities.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Human settlements are currently being developed by private sector entities, where human resources and technological capacity are high, but oriented towards profit making with little regard for environmental sustainability.

3. Major Groups:

- Private sector conglomerate Real Estate Companies: SOLIDERE, ELISSAR, LINOR

- NGOs seeking to counter unsustainable construction (with little effect)

4. Finance:

Private sector through over the counter shares, direct investment, stock market trading.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

Direct Foreign Investment.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1990	1995	
Urban population in % of total population	N/A	0.6%	
Annual rate of growth of urban population (%)	N/A	2.45%	
Largest city population (in % of total population) Beirut	N/A	31.3%	
Other data			

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 8: INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN DECISION-MAKING
(See pages vii and viii at the beginning of the profile)

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

Various efforts are underway in this direction.
The Ministry of Environment (MoE) in Lebanon is considered the only regulatory environmental agency in the country. The Ministry is committed to ensure good implementation and enforcement of environmental legislation, acts and regulations. Since September 94, the Ministry has initiated a Capacity 21 programme, with UNDP's support, to assist Government efforts to integrate sustainable development within national plans. This programme has lead to the development and updating of the following laws:
-Code of the Environment
-EIA
-Natural sites and Monuments review and update environmental legislation.

All these laws, however, need to be ratified by the Government, and enforcement mechanisms established.
The enforcement of environmental regulations and monitoring compliance remains inadequate due to weak inspection and enforcement capacity of the Ministry of Environment, and the overlap of responsibilities in MoE's mandate with other government agencies concerned with environmental issues. EIAs, for instance, are only carried out in the case where donors supporting a specific project impose an EIA to be produced prior to the approval of such funds.

MoE also enacted emission and ambient quality standards, in 1996, which were not based on existing pollution levels in Lebanon. More recently, an inter-ministerial committee, constituted of the Ministry of Industry and Petroleum, the Lebanese Norms Institute (LIBNOR) and MoE, has further reviewed industrial emission standards. However, the capacity of this committee to set new emission standards with clear enforcement schedules is inadequate.

Among the most important responsibilities of the MoE, in the field of environmental management, is the identification of permitting conditions for new industry, agriculture, quarrying and mining, and the enforcement of appropriate remedial measures for installations. The necessary environmental management schemes that can support MoE to fulfill this particular obligation are essential at this stage of reconstruction and development of the Lebanese economic sectors.

In 1995, a METAP/World Bank project assisted the Government to establish a state of Environment Report and a Strategy Framework, which was later approved by the MoE. The framework needs to be further updated and consolidated into a national strategy.

Coordination mechanisms for sustainable development are very weak; no institutionalized mechanism for coordination exists. A METAP/World Bank project to support the Unit of Planning and Programming at MoE will be initiated soon. UNDP will follow up the Capacity 21 programme with major emphasis on the participation of various concerned groups in a coordinated approach.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure (please also refer to the fact sheet):

MOE is responsible for policy planning and setting laws and regulations. Line Ministries and local authorities are responsible for implementation. CDR is a planning body and ensures coordination of foreign funding.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

The limited staff at MoE is a major constraint. National experts cannot be attracted by low salary rates at the MOE and other public institutions.

3. Major Groups:

NGOs have influenced policies in some occasions.
The private sector can be mobilized to play a major role.

4. Finance:

Capacity 21 phase one, $600,000. Phase two is expected to be around the same range.
METAP/World Bank SoE Report and Strategy Framework: $400,000, support to UPP: $250,000.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

The METAP III Capacity building programme is expected to receive support. UN agencies, World Bank, EU and various bilateral agencies are cooperating in this matter.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 9: PROTECTION OF THE ATMOSPHERE

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

The Montreal Protocol and its Amendments

- Montreal Protocol (1987) signed in 1993
- London Amendment (1990) signed in 1993
- Copenhagen Amendment (1992) signed in 19-- (not signed)
- The latest report(s) to the Montreal Protocol Secretariat were prepared in 1993 - 1994

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

See below

Additional comments relevant to this chapter

1. The Montreal Protocol and its amendments are being implemented and a national programme has been submitted for 93-94. The ozone office is awaiting initiation, and a few projects have been initiated.

2. In regard to the UNFCCC, the MoE has started to respond to the obligations of the Convention, with UNDP/GEF support through an enabling activity. Other GEF/Climate change proposals are being prepared.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

The Ministry of Environment is the focal point. The Ministry of Hydraulic and Electric Resources oversees pollution from Power generation. The Ministry of Petroleum oversees fuel imports and fuel specifications.
The MoE's ozone office oversees ozone issues, and the Ministry of Trade for Control of import of ODS.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues: Draft law for specifications and pollution levels.

- National Programme on import and use of ozone depleting substances 1992
- Pollution abatement equipment installed in cement factory
- Introduction but minimal use of unleaded gasoline < 1%
- $110 million earmarked for power generation emission control; no implementation initiated yet.

3. Major Groups:

- Lebanese Industrialists Association
- NGOs, CBOs (ALME Association pour la Maitrise de l'Energie)
- Private sector (cement plant owners)

4. Finance:

- $455,000 through multilateral channels for the National Ozone committee.
- $100 million has been requested from the Friends of Lebanon conference for Power Generation Pollution reduction.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO, French Fund for the Environment

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1980	1990	1996	
CO_2 emissions (eq. million tons)	N/A	2,842,080		
SO_x "	N/A	84,850		
NO_x "	N/A	49,480		
CH_4 "	N/A	3,20		
Consumption of ozone depleting substances (Tons)	N/A	923		
Expenditure on air pollution abatement in US$ equivalents (million)	0	0	0	
Other data				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 10: INTEGRATED APPROACH TO THE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND RESOURCES

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

One of the main problems in this area is the scarcity of available data bases. Whatever is found tends to be outdated, having mostly been collected in the 1960s.

Several problems plague the land resources of Lebanon, the most prominent of which is the lack of integrated planning and management. Salination from natural sources or as a result of irrigation is a major environmental issue for the future of the country. Ground water, which originates from lime-stone highly califerous formations is excessively used for irrigation the Bekaa.

The irreversible reduction of vegetation cover, followed by the disappearance of top soil, has resulted in desertification in many areas.

The unsustainable forms of land management, socio-economic policy and institutional factors are also a draw back.

Crude studies have shown that local excessive grazing in the South and North of Lebanon, in addition to the Bekaa and Arti Lebanon, has caused the degradation of pasture lands.

Excessive construction in the coastal zone and Mount Lebanon reflects the lack of sound integrated management of land resources in urban areas.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

- Ministry of Agriculture - The Green Plan
- Ministry of Public Works - Directorate general of Urban planning
- Ministry of Environment has an advisory role

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

There is no specific international, regional or bilateral programme on integrated approaches to planning and management of land resources. Some on-going projects indirectly lead to integrated land management, such as the Baalbeck-Hermel integrated rural development programme, administered by UNDP/UNDCP and the EU vegetation programme.

3. Major Groups:

Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Public Works
MoE
EU, UNDP, UNDCP, FAO
NGOs, CBOs

4. Finance:

$2 million from EU for vegetation programme
$2 million on average per year from FAO, UNDP, UNDCP combined

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

International programmes with NGOs and CBOs focus on terracing and reforestation.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 11: COMBATING DEFORESTATION

NATIONAL PRIORITY: High National Priority

STATUS REPORT:

Annual loss of forests, which are under the authority of the Ministry of Agriculture, has increased as a result of accidental and intentional forest fires, with current forest cover accounting for less than 7% of total area.

Reforestation efforts are under way with several donor programmes being administered through the Ministry of Agriculture. The sustainability of these efforts can only be measured with land resources data being updated with modern methods. A request by the Lebanese Government has been presented to the Friends of Lebanon conference, hosted by the American Government, in December 1996, requesting $10 million for an integrated programme with the following components:

- Preparation of a detailed reforestation plan
- Preserving an area of 5000 ha in the first phase
- Reforestation of an area of 4500ha.

It should be noted that in 1982 FAO estimated the country's need for new forest areas to be equivalent to 200,000ha.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:
The Ministry of Agriculture
The Rural Development and Natural Resources Directorate
The Green Plan

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

An integrated capacity building 5 year plan is being prepared in collaboration with the private sector and NGOs, in addition to FAO and other donor organizations.

3. Major Groups:

In addition to governmental organizations, NGOs, and CBOs, the private sector accounts for a large part of the efforts.

4. Finance:

$10 million dollars requested from Friends of Lebanon conference.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

- FAO cooperates with the Ministry of Agriculture in reforestation activities.
- France provides assistance for reforestation of pine forest of Beirut.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1985	1990	1993	
Forest Area (ha)			70,000	
Protected forest area (ha)			2,700	
Roundwood production (solid volume of roundwood without bark in mill m^3)			N/A	
Deforestation rate (Km^2/annum)			N/A	
Reforestation rate (ha/annum)			120,000	
Other data				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 12: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: COMBATING DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT

NATIONAL PRIORITY: Not a Priority

STATUS REPORT:

International Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Drought and/or Desertification Particularly in Africa

- The Convention was signed in 1995, and ratified in 1996.

Additional comments relevant to this chapter

Desertification resulting from wind and water erosion, the irreversible disappearance of top soil, and salination of natural sources, is not a top government priority. Regions which are severely affected are in the cazas of Hermel, Baalbeck and Zahleh. Lack of data does not allow to precisely quantify the scope of the problem.

Previous data is obtained from meteorological stations according to a ration of precipitation to evapotranspiration.

A national committee to combat desertification has been formed. The formulation of a strategy and action plan to combat desertification is underway.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

The main decission-making bodies are:

Ministry of Agriculture
Ministry of Hydraulic and Electric Resources
Ministry of Environment.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Laws have been issued by various Ministries to combat tree cutting and overgrazing. Law enforcement and awareness in this area is generally weak, although some increased activity in tree cutting law enforcement has been occuring in the last two months.

3. Major Groups:

Ministry of Agriculture
Ministry of Environment
NGOs, CBOs

4. Finance:

UNDP $80,000 for national committee to combat desertification.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

FAO, UNDP/Capacity 21/UNIDO in raising awareness.
WB/IFAD rehabilitation of irrigation schemes.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1980	1990	Latest 199_	
Land affected by desertification (Km^2)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Other data				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 13: MANAGING FRAGILE ECOSYSTEMS: SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

The major mountain systems in Lebanon are:

- Mount Lebanon range to Litani excluding southern mountain area: 480,000ha
- Arti-Lebanon area: 187,000ha
- South Lebanon (upper Galilee, Jabal Amel): 70,000ha

The Ministry of Agriculture, through the rural development and natural wealth directorate, oversees this issue. Additionally, the Ministry of Public Works has authority through the directorate of Urban Planning.

Some steps are being taken to raise awareness among the population regarding general environmental issues.

A joint project for public environmental education is being carried out by UNIDO/UNESCO/FAO. Some social, economic, or cultural incentives are available for farmers in mountain committee, to undertake conservation, such as:

The tree nurseries and agriculture cooperatives, of the Ministry of Agriculture, provide farmers with seedlings, land, and fertilizers at low prices.

Reforestation and public environmental awareness activities are progressively increasing due to the work of environmental NGOs and schools, in collaboration with local communities.

Social programmes being carried out in Mountain areas are:
-Irrigation schemes through MoA
-CDR executed school rehabilitation
-The Ministry of Health is constructing new hospitals
-The Ministry of Hydraulic and electric resources is renovating water and electric networks.

NOTE: mountain areas are mostly rural areas.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

Ministry of Agriculture
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Displaced Persons
Ministry of Hydraulic and Electric Resources
CDR

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Mountain areas development is administered through National reconstruction plans.
No specific programme is geared towards mountain areas in particular, but rather to rural areas in general.

3. Major Groups:

Private sector, UN organizations, and Government decision makers.

4. Finance:

Funding is spread out through the various items of the national reconstruction plan, Horizon 2000

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

UNDP/UNIDO, FAO, UNDCP

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

Figures for indicators pertaining to mountain issues are almost in-existent particularly for areas vulnerable to flooding, land slides, etc.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 14: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL PRIORITY: Medium National Priority

STATUS REPORT:

Three broad areas exist where agricultural practices are having adverse effects:

- Misuse of water
- Misuse of agrochemicals
- Soil erosion from land abandonment and overgrazing.

The present use of irrigation water is inefficient, with high losses and wasteful applications to most crops. Agrochemicals misuse constitute a serious health hazard with an urgent need for pesticide control through law enforcement.

Fertilizers pose a less serious health hazard. Their use appears to be haphazard and may contribute to the contamination of water resources.

In terms of rural development, MoA is implementing an integrated rural development Programme in the Baalbeck-Hermel region, to provide small and medium scale farmers assistance which would lead to sustainable human development through start off activities. These activities include improvement of health, social services, education and income generating non-agricultural activities.

Additionally, international assistance is channeled through UNDP to three local NGOs which provide assistance to vulnerable groups, such as women and the disabled. NGOs, such as YWCA, have programmes of their own with similar goals.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

Ministry of Agriculture, The Rural Development and Natural Wealth Directorate, and the Green Plan.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Farmers' awareness and capacity building is an on going process. In rural areas support is given to groups, such as women, to help prevent migration to restricted areas.

3. Major Groups:

MoA
NGOs
International NGOs
UN organizations

4. Finance:

Ministry of Agriculture oversees a $5.5 million Internationally supported fund for Baalbeck-Hermel
YWCA-USA; YWCA Lebanon has a $50,000 fund for rural area support

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

UNDP, UNDCP, ODA-UK, FAO
YWCA-USA.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1985	1990	1994	
Agricultural land (ha)			207,060	ha
Agricultural land as % of total land area			54%	
Agricultural land per capita				
	1989/90	**1992/93**	**1994**	
Consumption of fertilizers per ha of agricultural land as of 1990			67 kg/ha	
Other data Population of farmers as percent of total population 1975 - 20% 1988 - 23% 1994 - 16%				

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 15: CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

Convention on Biological Diversity

- The Convention was signed in 1992, and ratified in 1994.

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

- The Convention was signed in 1995.

Additional comments relevant to this chapter

Studies on the Biological Diversity of Lebanon (undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture, with the assistance of UNEP) have been completed. The results of these studies were published in 9 volumes, in January 1997.

The Protected Areas Project was launched by the Ministry of Environment, on 15 November 1996. The project has to put into place an effectively managed system, to protect endemic and endangered species and incorporate biodiversity conservation as an integral part of sustainable human development. The project includes 3 areas: 1) Arz El-Shouf (Cedars), 2) Horsh Ehden Forest, and 3) Palm Islands.

The French Government will finance 3 additional protected areas during 1997. Since 1992, the Lebanese Government has provided assistance to 3 existing Protected Areas. These include wet lands and coastal areas. The Government is taking measures to ratify the Ramsar Convention for this process.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

The Ministries of Environment and Agriculture are both responsible for decision-making in this regard, leading to conflicts of authority. While MoE oversees the biodiversity convention, MoA is involved in its execution. The same applies to the management of Protected Areas.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Both the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture have limited staff and offer unattractive salaries to professionals.

3. Major Groups:

MoE: Department of Protected Areas and Wild life
MoA: Department of National Resources and Rural Areas
NCSR
NGOs

4. Finance:

- Financing from UNDP/GEF, for protection and administration of 3 protected areas - $2.5 million.
- FFEM provided $700,000 for 3 additional protected areas.
- Enabling activity from GEF/UNDP - $300,000 for Biodiversity.
- Counting study from GEF/UNEP for $200,000

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

IUCN
GEF
UNDP
NCSR

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1992	1996
Protected area as % of total land area	N/A	1%
	1990	**1996**
Number of threatened species	N/A	45

Other data
. Living species documented are 9 119, of which 4 633 are flora, and 4 486 are fauna.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 16: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

NATIONAL PRIORITY:	
STATUS REPORT: Biotechnology research, carried out through University research programmes, is in its early stages in Lebanon.	

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. **Decision-Making Structure:** No information

2. **Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:** No information

3. **Major Groups:** No information

4. **Finance:** No information

5. **Regional/International Cooperation:** No information

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 17: PROTECTION OF THE OCEANS, ALL KINDS OF SEAS, INCLUDING ENCLOSED AND SEMI-ENCLOSED SEAS, AND COASTAL AREAS AND THE PROTECTION, RATIONAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR LIVING RESOURCES

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea

Not signed

See also the attached tables on the next pages.

Lebanon's coastline extends over a stretch of 220km. Most of this coastline is extensively occupied by urban encroachment. Densely populated settlements with no adequate services, along most of the coast line, are causing a major negative impact on the marine environment and environmental health.

In this respect, pollution of the marine waters is significantly high. Positive concentrations of mercury, copper, cadmium, and PCBs, due to discharges of industrial waste, and over use of fertilizers and pesticides in agricultural areas, many of which are close to the marine environment, are also a source of pollution.

Marine oil pollution, due to numerous oil storage facilities, located on the coastline, constitute a major threat.

Although exploitation of marine resources is unorganized, it has improved after the war, as the use of pesticides and dynamite stopped. Fish catches have dramatically declined over the past ten years.

National and international efforts to improve the situation of the marine environment are underway. The Government is improving major infrastructure work. Support to NGOs involved in protection activities is being encouraged both by the Government and by the international community. UNDP has mobilized GEF and FFEM resources to assist in the protection of three marine protected areas in Lebanon.

The World Band has recently undertaken a Regional Coastal Assessment Study; the recommendations of the study should be further followed up.

Follow up to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols is slow, but initiatives are underway with the Blue Plan to activate it. The MoE is also undertaking preparations to sign and ratify the Ramsar Convention.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

MoE, CDR

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Accurate baseline studies are required to ensure a better understanding of problems. While human resources exist, these cannot be attracted by the public sector, and sophisticated analytical equipment is also needed. Coordination is weak and implementation of law as well.

3. Major Groups:

Directorate for Urban Planning, Ministry of Transport, NGOs

4. Finance:

UNDP GEF/FFEM Marine Protected areas: $1,500,000
World Bank Costal assessment: $400,000

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

UNEP/Map, support in the context of the Barcelona Convention
EU, UNDP, METAP

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1980	1990	1994	
Catches of marine species (metric tons)	6000 (1974-75)		2,400	
Population in coastal areas			2.1 million	
Population served by waste water treatment (% of country's total population)			nil	
Discharges of oil into coastal waters (metric tons)			334,000	
Releases of phosphate into coastal waters (metric tons)				
Releases of nitrate into coastal waters (metric tons)				
Other data				

Chapter 17 (Oceans) Continued:

Check the boxes in the column below left:

For level of importance use:
*** = very important
** = important
* = not important
N = not relevant

Check the boxes in the column below right:
For level of implementation use:
*** = fully covered
** = well covered - gaps being addressed
* = poorly covered
O = not covered
N = not relevant

TABLE I. THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED BY THE APPROPRIATE COORDINATING MECHANISM FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF COASTAL AND MARINE AREAS AND THEIR RESOURCES.

LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE	ACTIVITY AS DESCRIBED IN AGENDA 21	LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION
*	a. Preparation and implementation of land and water use and siting policies.	0
**	b. Implementation of integrated coastal and marine management and sustainable development plans and programmes at appropriate levels.	*
*	c. Preparation of coastal profiles identifying critical areas including eroded zones, physical processes, development patterns, user conflicts and specific priorities for management.	*
*	d. Prior environmental impact assessment, systematic observation and follow-up of major projects, including systematic incorporation of results in decision-making.	0
*	e. Contingency plans for human induced and natural disasters.	0
**	f. Improvement of coastal human settlements, especially in housing, drinking water and treatment and disposal of sewage, solid wastes and industrial effluents.	*
*	g. Periodic assessment of the impacts of external factors and phenomena to ensure that the objectives of integrated management and sustainable development of coastal areas and marine environment are met.	0
*	h. Conservation and restoration of altered critical habitats.	0
*	I. Integration of sectoral programmes on sustainable development for settlements, agriculture, tourism, fishing, ports and industries affecting the coastal areas.	*
*	J. Infrastructure adaptation and alternative employment.	0
*	K. Human resource development and training.	*
**	L. Public education, awareness and information programmes.	*
*	M. Promoting environmentally sound technology and sustainable practices.	0
*	N. Development and simultaneous implementation of environmental quality criteria.	*

TABLE II. TECHNOLOGY (MARINE ENVIRONMENT)

LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE	ACTIVITY AS DESCRIBED IN AGENDA 21	LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION
*	A. Apply preventive, precautionary and anticipatory approaches so as to avoid degradation of the marine environment, as well as to reduce the risk of long-term or irreversible adverse effects upon it.	0
*	B. Ensure prior assessment of activities that may have significant adverse impacts upon the marine environment.	0
*	C. Integrate protection of the marine environment into relevant general environmental, social and economic development policies.	0
*	D. Develop economic incentives, where appropriate, to apply clean technologies and other means consistent with the internalization of environmental costs, such as the polluter pays principle, so as to avoid degradation of the marine environment.	0
*	E. Improve the living standards of coastal populations, particularly in developing countries, so as to contribute to reducing the degradation of the coastal and marine environment.	0
**	F. Effective monitoring and surveillance within the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of fish harvesting and transportation of toxic and other hazardous materials.	*

TABLE III. SEWAGE RELATED ISSUES

LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE	ACTIVITY AS DESCRIBED IN AGENDA 21	LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION
**	A. Sewage related problems are considered when formulating or reviewing coastal development plans, including human development plans.	**
**	B. Sewage treatment facilities are built in accordance with national policies.	**
*	C. Coastal outfalls are located so as to maintain acceptable level of environmental quality and to avoid exposing shell fisheries, water intakes and bathing areas to pathogens.	*
*	D. The Government promotes primary treatment of municipal sewage discharged to rivers, estuaries and the sea, or other solutions appropriate to specific sites.	0
*	E. The Government supports the establishment and improvement of local, national, subregional and regional, as necessary, regulatory and monitoring programmes to control effluent discharge. Minimum sewage effluent guidelines and water quality criteria are in use.	0

TABLE IV. OTHER SOURCES OF MARINE POLLUTION, THE GOVERNMENT HAS:

LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE	ACTIVITY AS DESCRIBED IN AGENDA 21	LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION
**	A. Established or improved upon, as necessary, regulatory and monitoring programmes to control emissions, including recycling technologies.	*
*	B. Promoted risk and environmental impact assessments to help ensure an acceptable level of environmental quality.	*
*	C. Promoted assessment and cooperation at the regional level, where appropriate, with respect to the input of point source pollutants from the marine environment.	0
*	D. Taken steps to eliminate emissions or discharges of organohalogen compounds from the marine environment.	0
*	E. Taken steps to eliminate/reduce emissions or discharges or other synthetic organic compounds from the marine environment.	0
*	F. Promoted controls over anthropogenic inputs of nitrogen and phosphorous that enter coastal waters where such problems as eutrophication threaten the marine environment or its resources.	0
*	G. Taken steps to develop and implement environmentally sound land-use techniques and practices to reduce run-off to water courses and estuaries which would cause pollution or degradation of the marine environment.	0
**	H. Promoted the use of environmentally less harmful pesticides and fertilizers and alternative methods for pest control, and considered the prohibition of those found to be environmentally unsound.	*
*	I. Adopted new initiatives at national, subregional and regional levels for controlling the input of non-point source pollutants which require broad changes in sewage and waste management, agricultural practices, mining, construction and transportation.	*
*	J. Taken steps to control and prevent coastal erosion and siltation due to anthropogenic factors related to, inter alia, land-use and construction techniques and practices.	0

TABLE V. ADDRESSING CRITICAL UNCERTAINTIES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE. IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROGRAMME AREA THE GOVERNMENT IS CARRYING OUT THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

LEVEL OF IMPORTANCE	ACTIVITY AS DESCRIBED IN AGENDA 21	LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION
**	A. Coordinating national and regional observation programmes for coastal and near-shore phenomena related to climate change and for research parameters essential for marine and coastal management in all regions.	*
**	B. Providing improved forecasts of marine conditions for the safety of inhabitants of coastal areas and for the efficiency of marine operations.	*
**	C. Adopting special measures to cope with and adapt to potential climate change and sea-level rise.	*
*	D. Participating in coastal vulnerability assessment, modelling and response strategies particularly for priority areas, such as small islands and low-lying and critical coastal areas.	*
**	E. Identifying ongoing and planned programmes of systematic observation of the marine environment, with a view to integrating activities and establishing priorities to address critical uncertainties for oceans and all seas.	*
*	F. Research to determine the marine biological effects of increased levels of ultraviolet rays due to the depletion of the stratospheric ozone layer.	0
*	G. Carrying out analysis, assessments and systematic observation of the role of oceans as a carbon sink.	0

TABLE VI. RATING OF ACTIVITIES IN THE AIR AND MARITIME TRANSPORT SECTORS IN THE SMALL ISLANDS DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)

AIR TRANSPORT	RATING	MARITIME TRANSPORT	RATING
1. Frequency (external flights)	N	1. Frequency (external shipping)	N
2. Frequency (in-country flights)	N	2. Frequency (in-country shipping)	N
3. Cooperation at regional level in air transport and civil aviation	N	3. Cooperation at regional level in shipping	N
4. Cooperation at international level	N	4. Cooperation at international level	N
5. Economic viability of national air line	N	5. Economic viability of national shipping line(s)	N
6. Economic viability of regional air line	N	6. Economic viability of regional shipping line (s)	N
7. national level training in skills for air transport sector	N	7. National level training in skills for maritime transport sector	N
8. Access to training in skills for air transport sector within the region	N	8. Regional level training in skills for maritime transport sector	N
9. Access to international training for air transport sector	N	9. Access to international training for maritime transport sector	N
10. Supportive of ICAO	N		

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 18: PROTECTION OF THE QUALITY AND SUPPLY OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES: APPLICATION OF INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO THE DEVELOPMENT, MANAGEMENT AND USE OF WATER RESOURCES

NATIONAL PRIORITY: Top National Priority

STATUS REPORT:

Water, and particularly the availability of sufficient quantities, is the most politically sensitive environmental issue facing Lebanon and the whole Middle East Region.

It should be noted that the Litani is the only major river in all the Near East not crossing national borders.

The main sources of data for the evaluation of water resource quantities in the country are based, to large extend, on desk research and literature review of sources prior to 1982.

Empirical research does not provide enough detailed analytical information, to allow for a comprehensive inventory of water resources, particularly ground water. Thus, the water budget is one of the major issues of the political/economic debate, with various studies producing surpluses or deficits in this budget.

In terms of quality, a major effort for bio-chemical monitoring of Lebanon's water sources was conducted by UNICEF, in collaboration with AUB, between 1989-1993. This monitoring process to evaluate seasonal variations, over extended periods of time, found that 70% of Lebanon's water resources was subject to bacteriological pollution effects.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

The Council of Ministers
CDR
The Ministry of Hydraulic and Electric Resources
Litani directorate

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

The CDR, in collaboration with the Ministry of Hydraulic and Electric Resources, has prepared master plans to increase the supply of water from natural resources. Protection of the quality of ground water is not yet a high priority.

3. Major Groups:

Water Quantities: Government agencies, water experts, research centers/Universities
NGOs participate in improving the quality of water, through community based programmes.

4. Finance:

The Lebanese government has requested a total of $670 million, from the Friends of Lebanon Conference, for upgrading water supply through new reservoirs, pumping stations, and treatment plants.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

Water issues are tightly guarded issues by the Lebanese Government. Almost all research and design is done in Lebanon, while international cooperation is limited to funding requests.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1980	1990	1995	
Fresh water availability (total domestic/external in million m^3)			2,280	
Annual withdrawal of freshwater as % of available water			1,440	

Other data

65% of the water supply to residents is surface water.
Annual available surface flow in dry season is 800 m3.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 19: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF TOXIC CHEMICALS, INCLUDING PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN TOXIC AND DANGEROUS PRODUCTS

NATIONAL PRIORITY: High National Priority

STATUS REPORT:

Lebanon imports large quantities of toxic chemical substances for national use in industries. The management of these substances is limited to customs and MoE at points of entry. All other operations that follow do not conform to international standards and are poorly managed.

For these reasons, Lebanon has a major programme related to toxic waste management.

- Industrial activities account for the largest source of toxic materials.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

MoE is the lead agency in decision-making. Implementation is done through collaboration between the MoE and the Ministry of Industry.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Although there is sufficient staff and lab equipment in the private sector, these resources are not being used, due to lack of regulations.

3. Major Groups:

MOE
Lebanese Industrial Association
International NGOs (Green Peace)
National NGOs

4. Finance:

The private sector provides financing for the dumping of the Toxic waste it produces.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

- Private Sector
- Consideration to limit toxic waste production has started within the GATT framework.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

NOT AVAILABLE

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 20: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS WASTES, INCLUDING PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN HAZARDOUS WASTES

NATIONAL PRIORITY: High National Priority

STATUS REPORT:

The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

- The Basel Convention was signed and ratified in 1994.
- The latest information was provided to the Basel Convention Secretariat in 1997.

Additional comments relevant to this chapter

- Within the context of article (11) of the Convention, the MoE signed a bilateral accord, in 1994, with the German Government, concerning used battery imports.
- In 1994, Lebanon was faced with the burden of 20 ethylacylate barrels which were exported to France.
- Industrial waste from Lebanese industries represents a major problem, due to the fact that the country lacks the appropriate means to dispose of it.
- The Lebanese Government passed decree No. 22/1 dated 17/12/96 concerning the organization of plastic waste import according to the green, red and orange lists approved by EU.

- Recently, preventive measures for limiting traffic of illegal hazardous wastes were strengthened. A Government decree has also been issued limiting the import of several plastic substances, not previously listed in the 1988 law on Hazardous Waste. Various wastes were confiscated, which originated in developing countries.

- In 1994, a bilateral agreement was signed, between Lebanon and Germany, to control import of used batteries.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

MoE is the lead decision maker.
Customs collaborate with MoE on enforcement at entry points.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Limited specialized experts and limited effective monitoring equipment.

3. Major Groups:

MoE customs
International NGOs (Green Peace)
National NGOs

4. Finance:

- The expense of retrieval of imported hazardous wastes is provided by originating countries.
- Government financing is being provided for rehabilitation of hazardous waste dumps in Lebanon.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

-SBC, Customs.
-Cooperation within the framework of the Basil Convention.
-International and local NGOs.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

	1980	1990	199-	
Generation of hazardous waste (t)				
Import of hazardous wastes (t)				
Export of hazardous wastes (t)				
Area of land contaminated by hazardous waste (km^2)			N/A	
Expenditure on hazardous waste treatment (US$)				

Other data

The extent of hazardous waste imported into Lebanon during the war varies from several hundred to 17,000 barrels, depending on the source of information.

More waste has been imported into the country in recent years. A portion has been located while the location of the remaining quantities have not been accurately determined.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 21: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF SOLID WASTES AND SEWAGE-RELATED ISSUES

NATIONAL PRIORITY: URGENT

STATUS REPORT: Management of Solid Waste.
Two schemes prevail here:

1. Collection and treatment of solid waste is undertaken in Greater Beirut and few areas of Mount Lebanon. A project was launched to rehabilitate the existing plants at Amroussieh and Quarantina, to absorb up to 1700 tons per day, knowing that currently some 1300 ton per day are dumped at the Bourj-Hammoud open dump-site. The execution entity for this project has been assigned, but not the management entity (the former is a private company, the latter is undecided yet).

2. Waste collected in other Lebanese territories is completely monitored and contracted by local municipalities. The dumping sites at these areas are randomly selected and completely uncontrolled. Limited Environmental Impact Assessments and Envionmental audits are being made in this domain. Therefore, a master plan for Lebanon to properly manage solid waste is of utmost urgency.

Waste Water: The master plan is to include proposals to treat all kinds of waste, including water waste. Feasibility studies have been done and activities have begun. Sewage networks have been installed so far in a few areas. Others are still using collection wells, which are a major source of ground water pollution. In both cases, treatment is inexistent. All water waste is channeled directly to rivers and to the sea.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

The MoE and CDR oversee Solid waste.
The MoE, CDR, and the Ministry of Hydraulic and Electric resources are in charge of waste water.

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

- Master plan of reconstruction allocated little funds for waste disposal.
- Unattractive financial remuneration.
- Procurement of new managerial and technological systems is highly affected by politics rather than feasibility.

3. Major Groups:

MoE, MEHR, MMRA
CDR and NGOs
High Relief Commission (HRC)

4. Finance:

Such projects are currently financed by: the MoE, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), and the Independent special fund of municipalities. The World Bank provided $55 million and HRC provided $22 million for solid waste.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

MoE, CDR and Sector Implementation Unit (SIU), WB, EIB, Japan.
$400 million for sewage treatment have been requested from the Friends of Lebanon Conference.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS		
	1996	
Generation of industrial and municipal waste (t)	Domestic 1,574,000t/year Industrial 326,000 t/year	
Waste disposed(Kg/capita)	800-1000 gr.	
Expenditure on waste collection and treatment (US$)	"$77 million"	
Waste recycling rates (%)	2-3%	
Municipal waste disposal (Kg/capita)	500-850 gr	
Waste reduction rates per unit of GDP (t/year)	N/A	
Other data		

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 22: SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES

NATIONAL PRIORITY: Not a national Priority

STATUS REPORT:

The National Council for Scientific Research (NCSR) has a mandate to formulate safety standards and develop regulations and procedures for imports, use, and disposal of radioactive substances, and to develop local capacity for monitoring doses and radioactivity in humans and the environment.

The Lebanese University is in the process of establishing a laboratory for nuclear analytical measurement.

Cross-Sectoral Issues

1. Decision-Making Structure:

National Council for Scientific Research

2. Capacity-Building/Technology Issues:

Regulation and procedure setting is being undertaken by NCSR.
The Lebanese University provides training for lab technicians in nuclear analytical measurements.

3. Major Groups:

NCSR
Lebanese University

4. Finance:

$131,000 for NCSR, from IAEA, for regulation projects.
$101,000 for the Lebanese University, from IAEA, for lab capacity building.

5. Regional/International Cooperation:

IAEA

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS

AGENDA 21 CHAPTERS 23-32: MAJOR GROUPS

The role of major groups are also covered under the various chapters of Agenda 21. The following is a summary of main objectives outlined in Agenda 21. Please check the appropriate boxes and describe briefly any important steps or obstacles.

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

Ch. 24: GLOBAL ACTION FOR WOMEN TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT.
The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women was
Signed on 1996 With major reservations
Date

Ratified on 1996 with major reservations
Date

24.b Increasing the proportion of women decision makers.
Percentage of women:
The percentage of women working in parliament (2%) remained the same in both 1992 and 1996.
The number of women working at the local government level was negligible.

24.2.e assessing, reviewing, revising and implementing curricula and other educational material with a view to promoting dissemination of gender-relevant knowledge.
Curricula and educational material
See below

24.2.f and 24.2.c formulating and implementing policies, guidelines, strategies and plans for achievement of equality in all aspects of society including issuing a strategy by year 2000 to eliminate obstacles to full participation of women in sustainable development. Policies/strategies etc. are being drawn up.

24.2.d establishing mechanisms by 1995 to assess implementation and impact of development and environment policies and programmes on women
No information

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

Two laws were changed due to NGOs pressure. Curricula is planned. As a result of the Bejing Conference, a National Commission for the Advancement of Women was established by Governmental decree. UN agencies and the EU are supporting a national strategy, in cooperation with concerned NGO committees.

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

Ch. 25: CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

25.4 establishing processes that promote dialogue between the youth and government at all levels and mechanisms that permit youth access to information and opportunity to present their views on implementing A21.

Name relevant youth fora (3-4 most important):

1.
2.
3.
4.

Describe their role in the national process: ad hoc

25.6 reducing youth unemployment

25.5 ensuring that by year 2000 more than 50% of youth -- gender balanced -- have access to appropriate secondary education or vocational training.

The goal set in Agenda 21:
No goal has yet been set nationally.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

One Parliamentary session was held where children acted like deputies in a question and answer session.

Regional and international cooperation in the form of youth fora does exist.

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

Ch. 26: RECOGNIZING AND STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND THEIR COMMUNITIES.

26.3.a establishing a process to empower indigenous people and their communities -- through policies and legal instruments:

26.3.b strengthening arrangements for active participation in national policies

26.3.c involving indigenous people in resource management strategies and programmes at the national and local level.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

Not applicable

Ch. 27: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS: PARTNERS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

27.5 developing mechanisms that allow NGOs to play their partnership role responsibly and effectively.

27.6 reviewing formal procedures and mechanisms to involve NGOs in decision making and implementation.

27.8 promoting and allowing NGOs to participate in the conception, establishment and evaluation of official mechanisms to review Agenda 21 implementation.
NGO inputs are important.

27.7 establishing a mutually productive dialogue by 1995 at the national level between NGOs and governments.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

NGOs have consistently influenced Government policies through various ways, such as Parliamentary Committees, advertisement and awareness. However, this has been done through a one way dialogue with the Government. Recently the MoE started identifying a more systematic partnership with NGOs.

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS	
Ch. 28: LOCAL AUTHORITIES' INITIATIVES IN SUPPORT OF AGENDA 21. **28.2.d** encouraging local authorities to implement and monitor programmes that aim to ensure participation of women and youth in local decision making. Government support of local agenda 21 initiatives: The government does not support local agenda 21 initiatives. **Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):** This has not been a priority for Lebanese central authorities until now, but individual local initiatives exist.	
Ch. 29: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF WORKERS AND THEIR TRADE UNIONS. **29.2** full participation of workers in implementation and evaluation of A21. **29.3 a to e** (By year 2000, (a) promoting ratification of ILO conventions; (b) establishing bipartite and tripartite mechanism on safety, health and sustainable development; (c) increasing number of environmental collective agreements; (d) reducing occupational accidents and injuries; (e) increasing workers' education and training efforts. Workers do not yet participate in National Agenda 21 discussions/implementation. **Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):**	

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

30: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY.

30.6 increasing the efficiency of resource use, including reuse, recycling, and reduction of waste per unit of economic output.

30.18.a encouraging the concept of stewardship in management and use of natural resources by entrepreneurs.

List any actions taken in this area:

30.18.b increasing number of enterprises that subscribe to and implement sustainable development policies.
A few big enterprises have adopted sustainable development policies.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

MoE is preparing a national programme for this purpose.

STATUS REPORT ON PARTICIPATION BY MAJOR GROUPS AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS

Ch. 31: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COMMUNITY.

31.3.b improving exchange of knowledge and concerns between s&t community and the general public.
There is some effort in this direction
brief description: Ad-hoc scientific community public dissemination of information

31.9 developing, improving and promoting international acceptance of codes of practice and guidelines related to science and technology and its role in reconciling environment and development.

Brief comments on this chapter not already described in chapter 35 (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

Ch. 32: STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF FARMERS.

32.5.c promoting and encouraging sustainable farming practices and technologies.

32.5.e developing a policy framework that provides incentives and motivation among farmers for sustainable and efficient farming practices.

32.5.f enhancing participation of organizations of farmers in design and implementation of sustainable development policies.

Brief comments on this chapter (maximum 100 words) (please, do not exceed this page):

Outlined in chapter 14

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 33: FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND MECHANISMS

Financial resources and mechanisms are also covered under each sectoral chapter of Agenda 21 where relevant. This summary highlights broader national financial policies, domestic and external (including ODA)

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

The National Emergency Reconstruction Plan (92-95) and Horizon 2000 (95-2007) are the main national basis for domestic and external investment. Financing of these plans amounts to a gross total of $31 billion. Financing sources/ requirements include: $0.3 billion foreign capital grants, $11.2 billion foreign borrowing, $7.2 billion domestic borrowing, and $12.3 billion current budget surplus. External financing was allocated to the following sectors:

- Electricity ($980 million);
- Water supply ($286 million);
- Education ($234 million)
- Water and solid waste treatment ($207 million).

CHANGES IN NATIONAL BUDGET TO ADDRESS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

No significant changes in direct budget allocations to environmental activities have occurred. However, the Government short-term and long-term plans address substantively the rehabilitation of infrastructure, which have major positive consequences on sustainable development in general.

NEW ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS:

- New Government statement covered sustainable development issues as priority areas
- Increased fines on tree cutting have been introduced and implemented
- Restrictions on the import of plastic wastes have been introduced and implemented
- Regulations for petroleum storage facilities implemented
- Import of diesel vehicles (which was forbidden) have been authorized

ELIMINATION OF ENVIRONMENTALLY UNFRIENDLY SUBSIDIES:

Discussions to reduce subsidies in the electricity sector are underway. The council of ministers also decided, in January 1995, to install filters on all existing power stations in the country (estimated cost is $110 million).

ODA policy issues

No information

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS						
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	
ODA funding provided or received (Total US$million)	3	87	320	1068	2687	
	Average for 92-93		Average for 94-96			
Net flow of external capital from all sources as % of GDP			8.2			

Other data

* Agriculture and irrigation ($207 million)
* Airport ($196 million)
* Health ($163 million)
* Roads ($118 million)
* Public administration ($116 million)
* Telecommunications ($102 million)
* Housing ($64 million)
* Ports ($57 million).

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 34: TRANSFER OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND TECHNOLOGY, COOPERATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

Transfer of environmentally sound technology, cooperation and capacity-building is also covered under each sectoral chapter of Agenda 21 where relevant. This summary highlights broader national policies and actions relating to chapter 34.

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT ON LINKS BETWEEN NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION NETWORKS/SYSTEMS:

- The International Trade Center at the Ministry of Economy, and the Trade and Sustainable Development Networking Programme have both been funded by UNDP and received large national support and interaction.

- Programmes on Fiscal Reform and Administration (UNDP/CIDA), and the National Administrative Rehabilitation Programme.

- MoE has established a focal point to coordinate regional and international efforts (DEC 96)

MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION:

The Info. Tech. group of the Technical Cooperation Unit has been institutionalized within the various Ministries.

• Describe any work being undertaken at the national or local level regarding efforts to promote clean production processes and/or the concepts of eco-efficiency. These processes may include training, preferential financial arrangements, information dissemination and changes in legal or regulatory frameworks.

- Cimenterie National (cement factory) undertook a major rehabilitation plan to install cleaner technology with a $50 million loan from IMF.

- UNDP's LIFE and UMP programme sponsored solid waste recycling programmes in various forms.

-UNIDO is supporting clean production through workshops for decision makers.

• Provide information on the adoption of environmental management systems. National reaction to environmental management system standards such as the ISO 14000 Series and others. Please note efforts made at the national level to promote their adoption and the creation of certification infrastructure in order to facilitate access to these standards to local industry.

UNIDO and the EU are assisting the Lebanese Norms Institute in this issue.
UNDP, WBCSD, SBA, METAP are introducing such issues at the level of the private sector organizations and concerned line ministries (mainly Ministry of Trade and MoE).

• List and describe programs or work under way to facilitate the transfer of ESTs to small and medium sized enterprises. Please note efforts to facilitate access to financial resources and other transfer strategies.

UNIDO clean technologies workshop (1996) and its follow-up.

UNDP support to private sector intervention in the environment agenda with identification of PPP actions.

METAP/SBA: Delta workshop in Amman and its follow up.

Environment committees are being established in most Umbrella organizations with international links (ICC, Adène).

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 35: SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT ON NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE, RESEARCH NEEDS AND PRIORITIES:

The National Council for Scientific Research (NCSR) is the main national body responsible for identifying scientific needs, formulate strategies, and ensure the best utilization of scientific resources for the benefit of the public.
The NCSR is directly linked to the Council of Ministers and include the following departments:
-Marine Research Center
-Geophysics Research Center
-Solar Energy Center
-Remote Sensing Center
-Information and Documentation Center

Many universities have also developed expertise in the field of environment and sustainable development, and can be considered centers of excellence in the region.

Research remains theoretical in many cases and lacks the back up practical information which cannot be obtained in many instances, due to the lack of sophisticated analytical instruments.

Some researchers are also returning to the private university, where rates are improving. However, many national experts have remained outside the country where salaries are higher.

STEPS TAKEN TO ENHANCE SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING, IMPROVE LONG TERM SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT, BUILDING OF CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY:

Many efforts, both national and international, are undertaken to assist Scientific Research.
Various Bilateral and Multilateral agencies are supporting the NCSR, the Public Lebanese University, and other private Universities.

Vocational training and Technical Education Expansion, at the Public Lebanese University campus, are being seriously considered by the Government, and are estimated at a cost of $400,000 and $130,000 respectively. Financing will come from the World Bank, the EU, the IDB, and bilateral assistance from the Saudi Government and the Sultanate of Oman.

Other support has been channeled towards specific areas. For example, Germany assisted the Remote Sensing Center; IEAE supported the NCSR; USAID supported the American University of Beirut; AUPELF supported Francophone Universities; MEDCAMPUS assisted in training Lebanese University, and so forth.

Given the damage incurred on the Lebanese scientific community as a result of the war, it will take some time to replenish both human and financial resources needed in this sector.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS			
		Year	
Number of scientists, engineers and technicians engaged in research and experimental development	#	19--	
Total expenditure for research and experimental development (US$eq.)	$	19--	
Other data			

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 36: PROMOTING EDUCATION, PUBLIC AWARENESS AND TRAINING

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT:

A proposal from the Ministries of Environment and Education aims to promote environmental education and awareness in schools.

A National Environmental Strategy has been drafted by the MoE, in collaboration with UNDP.

a) Reorientation of education towards sustainable development

A new educational structure has been approved and will be introduced by the year 2000, whereby environmental issues will be incorporated into all subjects of the school curriculum.

b) Increasing public awareness

Public activities, such as seminars, and the production of educational materials are being undertaken by Environmental NGOs and CBOs, with the support of the private sector and the participation of the MoE.

c) Promoting training

Training activities regarding environmental issues are organized by the MoE, in collaboration with UN Agencies and concerned Ministries. Training for local community groups has also been undertaken by environmental NGOs.

ROLE OF MAJOR GROUPS:

Governmental: MoE, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture and Upper Education, Ministry of Agriculture, and a few municipalities.

Non Governmental: NGOs , CBOs, and the private sector.

UN: UNDP, UNICEF, and UNESCO, in collaboration with bilateral partners in some cases.

FINANCING AND COST EVALUATION OF THE LABOUR ACTIVITIES:

No specific financial allocations have been set.

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS				
	1980	1990	199-	
Adult literacy rate (%) Male			94.3	3
Adult literacy rate (%) Female			89.4	3
% of primary school children reaching grade 5 (1986-97)			96	4
Mean number of years of schooling			N/A	
% of GNP spent on education			1.9	5
Females per 100 males in secondary school	85	95	N/A	
Women per 100 men in the labour force	30	38	N/A	

Other data

1994 Figures:

Total enrolment in education institutions 770,599 49.91% females
Primary enrollment 360,858 48.6% Female
Secondary enrollment 261,341 52.2% Female
Vocational enrollment 44,651 47.4% Female
College enrollment 74,810 48.19% Female

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 37: NATIONAL MECHANISMS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

National capacity building is also covered under sectoral chapters.
Donors: You may wish to describe here how Agenda 21 has influenced your ODA policies in this area.
Developing countries: You may wish to describe any new national mechanisms for capacity building - and any changes in technical cooperation.

NATIONAL PRIORITY:

STATUS REPORT ON NATIONAL ENDOGENOUS CAPACITY BUILDING:

Aside from the efforts undertaken by the MoE and CDR, the National Administrative Rehabilitation Programme can be considered as a new national mechanism, within the scope of the Ministry of Administrative Reform, which ensures a broad national intervention at the Government level. This programme is constantly looking into the following:
-sectoral and cross-sectoral departmental programming approach
-a coordinated appraisal of sector institutions requirements
-an on-going review of the mandate and attributions of all public institutions
-a rising demand for better and more efficient public services.

This programme can be mobilized to serve the capacity building needs.

Another national mechanism, which can be considered as a potential tool for capacity building, is the work undertaken by NGOs to improve networks, coordinate their activities, and share experience. Their efforts need to be assisted by the international community, as national efforts are proving incapable of moving forward at the required pace.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 38: INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Ch. 38: Brief summary of any particular UN System response affecting this country/state:

Lebanon's Inter-agency Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development

1.Background

The Inter-agency Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development (ICESD), established in 1993, resumed its activities on February 6, 1996, in response to the urgent need to coordinate various activities undertaken by UN agencies.

The committee discussed its Terms of Reference among its members, and agreed upon the following terms:

- Update and follow-up programmes of all UN agencies and identify existing links among the various interventions as well as those related to the national needs.
- Review national action plans taking into consideration international recommendations and specifically those of Agenda 21.
- Formulate a common strategy, including the contribution of the various UN agencies.
- Identify a limited number of interventions and select the priorities in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, NGOs, Private Sector and other stakeholders.

The first task of the Committee's Secretariat, designed by the ICESD Secretary (UNDP's SDA), in cooperation with the FAO, UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO Committee focal points, was the compilation of a directory of the UN agencies and activities related to environment and sustainable development, which can assist in establishing a strategy for the Committee. The Directory was compiled following a series of meetings with project managers and Government focal points working in environment related projects, in various UN funded activities (Annex I).

2. Plan of action for 1997

It was agreed that, in 1997, the ICESD should concentrate on priority issues to be dealt with by the committee, in collaboration with the concerned Governmental and non-Governmental organizations. Two issues have already been identified and will be followed up for this purpose:

(i)- Support for the coordination of environmental information dissemination and awareness programmes.

Various initiatives have been undertaken by the different agencies in this context, including:
- Environment awareness strategy and programme: UNDP
- Environment education strategy: UNESCO/UNICEF/UNDP(LIFE)/UNFPA(IEC)
- Environment information dissemination: UNDP(SDNP)/FAO(EIS)/UNIDO

The committee will request specialized experts to undertake a review of existing proposals, and prepare a consolidated action plan for the implementation of these proposals in an integrated approach which would respond to the needs of the various stakeholders. A Joint work plan and a programme document will be produced.

(ii)- Support for reporting to the UN Review of Progress Since Earth Summit

In light of the General Assembly Resolution A/RES/50/113 of 16 February 1996 calling for a special session for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, the Commission for Sustainable Development has laid down a programme to report to the special session. The ICESD will assist in the production of an integrated national report to review national progress since the Earth Summit. For this purpose, a national consultant will be recruited to assist in the production of such report.

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 39: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS AND MECHANISMS

Ch. 39: International Legal Instruments are covered under the relevant sectoral chapters. This is a listing of major agreements/conventions (not already covered) entered into and relevant to Agenda 21:

CONTENTS OF THIS CHAPTER ARE LISTED ELSEWHERE

AGENDA 21 CHAPTER 40: INFORMATION FOR DECISION-MAKING

This chapter is also covered under sectoral and other chapters of this profile. The matrix below gives an overview of how national authorities rate the available information for decision making.

Rating of available data and information suitable for decision-making

Agenda 21 Chapters		Very good	Good	Some good data but many gaps	Poor	Remarks
2.	International cooperation and trade		X			
3.	Combating poverty			X		
4.	Changing consumption patterns				X	
5.	Demographic dynamics and sustainability				X	
6.	Human health			X		
7.	Human settlements			X		
8.	Integrating E & D in decision-making			X		
9.	Protection of the atmosphere				X	
10.	Integrated planning and management of land resources			X		
11.	Combating deforestation				X	
12.	Combating desertification and drought				X	
13.	Sustainable mountain development				X	
14.	Sustainable agriculture and rural development			X		
15.	Conservation of biological diversity		X			
16.	Biotechnology				X	
17.	Oceans, seas, coastal areas and their living resources			X		
18.	Freshwater resources		X			
19.	Toxic chemicals			X		
20.	Hazardous wastes			X		
21.	Solid wastes		X			
22.	Radioactive wastes				X	
24.	Women in sustainable development				X	
25.	Children and youth				X	
26.	Indigenous people					
27.	Non-governmental organizations		X			
28.	Local authorities				X	
29.	Workers and trade unions				X	
30.	Business and industry			X		
31.	Scientific and technological community			X		
32.	Farmers			X		
33.	Financial resources and mechanisms			X		
34.	Technology, cooperation and capacity-building			X		
35.	Science for sustainable development			X		
36.	Education, public awareness and training		X			
37.	International cooperation for capacity-building			X		
38.	International institutional arrangements			X		
39.	International legal instruments			X		
40.	Information for decision-making			X		

Additional Comments

STATISTICAL DATA/INDICATORS				
	1980	1993	1991	
Number of telephones in use per 100 inhabitants			11.1	
Other data Highest rate of mobile phones used according to inhabitant numbers.				